a roller rotatably mounted adjacent to the chamber wherein a gap is present between an outer surface of the roller and an internal surface of the discharge manifold.

18. (new) The apparatus of Claim 17, wherein at least one manifold inlet is configured for attachment to an adjustable valve for regulating flow of said molten, viscous material upstream of the manifold.

19. (new) The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein at least one manifold inlet is attached to an adjustable valve.

20. (new) The apparatus of Claim 19, wherein each manifold inlet is attached to an adjustable valve.

21. (new) The apparatus of Claim 17, wherein at least one manifold inlet is attached to a pipe.

22. (new) The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein each manifold inlet is attached to a pipe.

23. (new) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 17, further comprising a casting belt mounted adjacent to the manifold and downstream of the roller, wherein the roller is set a fixed distance from the casting belt and a space is formed between a surface of the roller and the casting belt.

24. (new) The apparatus of Claim 17, wherein the roller comprises a stainless steel cylinder and a plastic sleeve shrunk onto the cylinder.

25. (new) The apparatus of Claim 17, further comprising a drive mechanism connected to the roller to facilitate rotation of the roller.

26. (new) The apparatus of Claim 17, further comprising a pump to facilitate transfer of said molten, viscous material toward the casting belt.

27. (new) The apparatus of Claim 17, wherein the manifold has a plurality of manifold inlets.

28. (new) The apparatus of Claim 27, wherein each of the manifold inlets is attached to an adjustable valve.

29. (new) The apparatus of Claim 23, wherein the roller is positioned such that a longitudinal axis of the roller is perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the casting belt.

30. (new) The apparatus of Claim 23, wherein a bottom face of the chamber is open to the casting belt along at least a part of the length of the bottom face.

31. (new) The apparatus of Claim 23, wherein the fixed distance from the roller to the casting belt can determine the final sheet thickness of the molten, viscous material.

32. (new) The apparatus of Claim 23, comprising a drive mechanism connected to the casting belt to cause the belt to revolve.

33. (new) The apparatus of Claim 23, wherein tandem movement of the roller and the casting belt draws the molten, viscous material from the manifold.

34. (new) The apparatus of Claim 23, wherein the manifold is removable so that more than one type of manifold may be interchangeably mounted adjacent to the casting belt.

35. (new) A method of using the apparatus of claim 17 to dispense a continuous sheet of molten, viscous material, comprising the steps of:

a. driving a casting belt of a casting line in a constant direction, said casting belt having a width;

b. introducing molten, viscous starting material through at least one pipe feeding into the apparatus of claim 17;

c. driving the roller of claim 17 in the same direction as the casting belt, said roller being attached to the manifold such that the starting material passes between the roller and casting belt;

d. drawing the starting material from the chamber of claim 17 through a tandem movement of the roller and the casting belt in the same direction; and

e. dispensing a continuous sheet of molten, viscous material upon the casting belt as the belt is revolvingly driven.

36. (new) The method of Claim 35, wherein the starting material is introduced into the manifold under pressure from a pump.

37. (new) The method of Claim 36, wherein the starting material is introduced under a pressure of at least 1 psi.

38. (new) The method of Claim 35, wherein a continuous sheet of material is dispensed upon the casting belt under pressure from a pump.

39. (new) The method of Claim 38, wherein the continuous sheet of material is introduced under a pressure of at least 1 psi.

40. (new) A method for forming a continuous sheet of material from a molten, viscous starting material comprising the steps of:

a. driving a casting belt of a casting line in a constant direction, said casting belt having a width;

b. introducing molten, viscous starting material through at least one pipe feeding into a manifold chamber mounted in an area adjacent to the casting belt, said material exiting the manifold through an outlet;

c. driving a roller in the same direction as the casting belt, said roller being attached to the manifold such that the starting material passes between the roller and casting belt;

d. drawing the starting material from the chamber through tandem movement of the roller and the casting belt in the same direction; and

e. dispensing a continuous sheet of material upon the casting belt as the belt is revolvingly driven.

41. (new) The method of Claim 40, wherein the starting material is introduced into the manifold under pressure from a pump.

42. (new) The method of Claim 41, wherein the starting material is introduced under a pressure of at least 1 psi.

43. (new) The method of Claim 40, wherein a continuous sheet of material is dispensed upon the casting belt under pressure from a pump.

44. (new) The method of Claim 43, wherein the continuous sheet of material is introduced under a pressure of at least 1 psi.

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached formal drawings include replacement sheets for Fig. 1-7 and include the following changes to Fig. 1-3 and 5-7:

In Figure 1:

(1) The surface of the belt 30 element has been repositioned.

(2) Previously omitted elements 21A and 21B have been added in accordance with p. 6, lines 23-24.

In Figure 2:

(1) The surface of the belt 30 element has been deleted.

(2) The number 3 has been added (twice) to indicate the cross sectional view for FIG. 3.

(3) The number 6 has been added (twice) to indicate the cross sectional view for FIG. 6.

In Figure 3:

(1) Hatching for element 36 has been removed, since this element is defined by a gap (see e.g., p. 7, line 28 – p. 8, line 3).

In Figure 5:

(1) The surface of the belt 30 element has been changed to top face plate 38.

(2) The left element 32 has been deleted, since only the right element correctly designates the upstream face plate.

(3) Element 17 has been repositioned to be consistent with Fig. 6.

In Fig. 6:

(1) The width of the chamber cavity "a" has been replaced with "w" in accordance with the specification (p. 7, lines 3-4).

In Fig. 7:

(1) A second drive mechanism element 20 has been added in accordance with the specification (p. 7, lines 9-11) and allowed claims 3, 9, 25, 32 and 39.

(2) Drive mechanism element 17 (p. 6, lines 8-9) has been renumbered 19 to correct for element 17 being defined elsewhere as a stainless steel cylinder (see e.g. p. 7, lines 7-8; Fig. 5-6). Support for this element is provided in p. 6, lines 8-9 and allowed claims 20, 23, 30 and 37.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets (Fig. 1-7)
Annotated Sheets (Fig. 1-7) Showing Changes